PLAY BILLS THIS WEEK

ANNA HELD IN "FRENCH MAID" AND WILSON'S "LITTLE CORPORAL."

"Incog" by Grand Stock Company-Double Bill at the Park-Empire Vandeville.

The return engagement of "The French Maid" for two performances at English's Parisienne chanteuse, Held, is to play the title the little French maid, addition to giving her repertory of songs. "The French Maid." with its scores of singers, dancers and comedians, including Charles Bigelow in the part of the eccentric English waiter, was regarded as one of the very best things of the season at English's last year, but at that time it had no such spectacular feature as the unrivaled Anna Held. While Olive Redpath made a very charming Sussette with her simulated French ways and dialect, she could never hope to approach in distinction the accomplished artiste, who will this year impersonate the dainty creature responsible for so much of the delightful entertainment furnished by this musical comedy. Until last week Anna Held had been only a feature of "The French Maid," but the great demand in Chicago led her managers to put her into the part which she started out to play early in the season, and her success may be guesssed from the following, which Amy Lesley, the Chicago News critic, wrote: "Miss Held plays the maid with her Irish sheriff. May Shewill, Effie Taylor and own special, unequaled and altogether irresistible dialect, which no imitation French girl could approach, and her dainty airs and audacities, her capacity for saucy episode and the thrill of sensationalism really fit into the chic soubrette of the farce Bigelow manufactured out of tricks. Miss Held, of course, wore such extravagant and bewildering costumes ablaze with diamonds and jewels as no Cleopatra wore on the barge. She is very young, so young that youth, and the impudence of butterfly iresponsibility. The best thing Anna Held has done in this country by all means is

Seldom is any production seen here which possesses so many elements of popularity "The French Maid." The play itself is one of the most entertaining of the kind that has been brought out in America. It was presented for two years continuously in London and one year in New York. The original New York cast remains almost intact, and comprises a number of well-known The weak-lunged and sharp-nosed nglish waiter of Charles A. Bigelow is one of the most amusing characterizations imginable, while the British sailor of Hallen ostyn, the French hotel keeper of George Honey, the admiral of E. J. Herron and won the highest favor. Of the women in the cast to be commended are Eva Davenport, Jane Holly, Yolande Wallace and Mamie Forbes. The sale of seats opens

GRAND STOCK COMPANY. The Laughable Farce "Incog," with a

Curtain Raiser for Four. The twenty-third week of the Grand stock company will be devoted to that comedy of complications and Dromio-like tendencies, "Incog." The well-known actor, Charles Dickson, who was recently here at the head of "Mistakes Will Happen," first made people laugh in this farce. That was seven years ago, since which time it has not been seen. It is believed to be well suited to the stock company, which will find a diversion from the heavy drama of "Camille" in the light, breezy laugh-producer, "Incog." In the story Tom Stanhope, a lively young fellow, is determined to marry Kate Armitage, the governess in General Stanhope's family. The general is a high-tempered old fellow, who is equally as determined that Tom shall marry Isabel Howard, his ward. He and out of the house. Kate's pride is unless his father requests her to do so. Tom swears that he will make the general prefer such a request, and in order to begin this difficult task he disguises himself in a blonde wig and whiskers, making up from a pho tograph he found while walking along the beach near the Sea View Hotel, where the first two acts take place. The general takes kindly to the disguised Tom and is about to help him marry Kate, when the plan is interfered with by the arrival of Harry Winters, the original of the photograph, and, to complicate matters, the latter has a twin brother, Dick, who has been confined in a sanatorium for mental disorder, and who turns up at the Sea View Hotel at this juncture. The three men look exactly alike, and the complications can be readily imagined, especially as Dick Winters has a turn, for Tom. The situations are vastly amusing, and there are rapid-fire complications, provoking merriment. In the end General Stanhope asks Kate to marry his son in due form and everything comes to a pleasant conclusion. The cast is as follows: Tom Stanhope, Mr. Hansel; Dick Winters, Mr. Patton; Harry Winters, Mr. Sheldon; General Stanhope, Mr. Kirkland; Ned Moreland, Mr. Conger; Dr. Wagner Hartman. Mr. Braford; Matthew, Mr. Miles; Kate Armitage, Miss Shannon; Molly Somers, Miss Berg; Mrs. Winters; Miss Daily; Isabel

Howard, Miss Field. For the first time this season the stock company to-morrow night and all week will put on a little curtain raiser called "The Open Gate," a domestic drama in one act, by C. Haddon Chambers, who wrote "The It is somewhat similar to Gilbert's "Sweethearts," and is a very pretty little play. Miss Shannon, Mr. Hansel, Miss Field and Mr. Miles will appear in "The Open

Prancis Wilson in "The Little Cor-

poral." Francis Wilson, always one of the most popular performers who visit Indianapolis during the course of a season, will appear at English's Friday and Saturday with his new opera, "The Little Corporal," by Harry B. Smith and Ludwig Englander. Francis Wilson's own peculiar style of humor in comic opera roles has never been imitated, while his haif-talk, half-sung songs are just as distinctively the result of his own ideas of how to make an audience laugh as anything else he does. In "The Little Corporal" his admirers are promised one of the best entertainments Wilson ever presented, not even excepting "Erminie." His part of Pierre Petitpas is a masquerade role from first to last, appearing most of the time in the garments of Napoleon during his Egyptian campaign. The scene of the opening act of the new plece is laid in Brittany at that turbulent period of French history, the year 1797. Pierre Petitpas, the faithful valet of the Marquis de St. Andre, a proscribed Royalist leader, has purchased his master's confiscated estates, and in order to protect them for the marquis, pretends to be a rabid Republican. St. Andre is surprised by Republican troops, but they are not aware of his identity, and Petitpas declares him to be his assistant in an astronomical observation he is making. Both are drafted into the army, but by posing as scientists they are able to gain an assignment to the corps of savants Bonaparte is sending with the expedition to Egypt. In the second act the two bogus men of science are with the invading army at Alexandria, where they are joined by the marquis's fliancee, Adele de Tourville, who, to join her lover, has enlisted as a cantiniere, and taken along her rustic foster sister, Jacqueline, with whom the has exchanged names. St. Andre is imprudent enough to write and sing a song ampooning Bonaparte and is sentenced to be shot. The general goes on an expedition into the desert, and in his absence one of his uniforms, and posing as the Little masquerade, however, results in unfortunate complications, for Petitpas, the marquis, Mile. De Tourville and Jacqueline are captured by Mamelukes, who believe they have the real Bonaparte and demand an enormous the real Bonaparte and demand an enormous will return to the Lordon with "Zaza" of the principal And so the blessings heaven daily grants Are in their very commonness forgot; We little heed what answereth our wants—Until it answers not.

dared to tell her because he believes her to isted, or, at least, was never recognized, be Mile. De Tourville. When he discovers and this is the part which Taber will play. the facts he declares himself and all ends happily. Miss Lulu Glaser has made a hit as Jacqueline, and the same may be said of the newcomers to the company, Denis O'Sullivan and Maud Lillian Berri, who sustain the roles of St. Andre and Adele. Other prominent members of the cast are Louis Casavant and John Brand, and Mathilde Preville. The chorus this season is made up of new engagements with fresh and unworn voices. "The Little Corporal" staged with picturesque scenery and costumes. There will be a Saturday matinee. Seats will be placed on sale Tuesday morn-

Park-"At Gay Coney Island."

"At Gay Coney Island," coming to the Park Theater to-morrow afternoon for three days, has numerous novel farce features, among them "shooting the chutes." A heavy structure is required to faithfully adapt the chutes to stage uses, but the management has prepared the entire outfit and four boats occupied by gayly dressed men and women are seen indulging in the pastime as though it were genuine. The company engaged in the interpretation of this frolic is declared to include a number of recruits from the Broadway music halls who have never before been seen in the West, but whose fame in the metropolis is not of late acquisition. Linton and Barry, two young comedians of the rapid-fire variety, have charge of the principal roles. Florence Beardsley, an accomplished soprano of graceful personality, is the dashing Della Ware of the cast, and Mattle Lockette, Nettie De Coursey, a dainty soprano who impersonates a boy, and the Le Page Sisters, who execute five kaleidoscopic changes of costume in an incredibly short time, accompanying each with an appropriate song and dance, are among the feminine contingent. James H. Bradbury, an actor of many years experience, has charge of the stage. Alf Holt comes West for the first time and exhibits his skill as an imitator of birds and beasts. Tony Hart is the Dutch grocer, and Dick Richards the Gertrude Bromley are said to sing well and dress stylishly. There is also a chorus and the musical numbers are new and varied. JOSEPH HART'S VAUDEVILLE.

Some fine vaudeville organizations have appeared at the Park this season, but Joseph Hart's Specialty Company, coming the last half of this week, is to give Park patrons what is heralded as the best of all. After two months' correspondence Dickson & Talbott managed to get three days of this company's time for Indianapolis, and it will her beauty is the sweetness of wayward appear next Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The company is under the direction of Weber & Fields, which is an assurance that it contains selected performers for a bill of merit and variety. The list is headed by Joseph Hart himself, formerly of Hallen & Hart, who will have the assistance of pretty Carrie De Mar in an amusing sketch entitled "Dr. Chauncey's Visit," in which they will introduce their taking specialties. Another feature is M. Rudinoff, from the Royal Court Theater at Berlin, and who is billed as a European entertainer of remarkable ability, as an expert imitator of birds and an unusually clever shadowgraphist Charles T. Aldrich, the juggling comedian who is not the least prominent on the list has added to his unique specialty a burlesque on M. Rudinoff which has scored a hit. As laugh producers Yorke and Adams, formerly with "In Gay New York," give their impersonations of "Just Two Plain Jews," one of the laughing bits on the programme. In the line of acrobatic work will be the Van Aukens, who have won fame with their act on the horizontal bars. Among the other features are Valmore, in imitations of musical instruments; Miss Ethel Levey, singer and comedienne, and Lavender and Tomson, a comedy sketch team. The entire programme is promised to be high class in character. Empire-American Burlesquers.

The American Burlesquers will open at the Empire to-morrow afternoon for the week. As a special addition to an already good entertainment, the management will offer Mason Mitchell's twenty-five minute lecture on his experiences as a Rough Rider before Santiago, where he received the wound that came so near ending his career. Mr. Mitchell's record as actor, leading man with some of the great stars in the dramatic firmament, support of others of the highest degree, and management of leading actors, is already known here. For the lecture itself, and the manner of delivery, the press of all the great cities where it has been given has ad nothing but the warmest commenda-The Boston Transcript, which has sedulously belittled the late war, was forced to admit that "Mason Mitchell, the Rough Rider, who tells what he saw in the little war with Spain, has, to begin with, a fine presence; then he is a trained elocutionist and a professional orator, acquainted with all the arts and artifices whereby words are made to express great thoughts and powerful emotions, and when it is apparent that he actually feels all and more than he describes so eloquently, it is not surprising that he electrifies his hearers and that hearts beat and eyes moisten." Mr. Mitchell appears in a uniform that has seen service in Roosevelt's command. Stereopticon illustrations, from photographs taken on the spot, add to the interest. The variety and burlesque portion of the entertainment is contributed by W. B. Watson, a leader among the army of burlesque Hebrews now in variety; Jeannette Dupre, the "American Anna Held;" Perry and Burns, Irish comedians; Monroe Sisters, song and dance soubrettes; Leslie and Curdy, parodists; Mildred Murray, vocalist, and the well-known wife and family and Harry a sweetheart. | comedy team, Dick and Kittle Cumins. The Before matters are straightened out every- two burlesques are said to be well staged body has a chance to mistake Tom Stanhope and well stocked as to chorus-probably a for one of the brothers, and the brothers, in | true statement, as the show has always done well in these respects heretofore.

Olga Nethersole in "Carmen."

The mangers of Olga Nethersole, the great English actress, who appears at English's on Monday night of next week, have decided to give "Carmen" for the one performance here. Miss Nethersole has not been seen in this city since the first year she was introduced to the American public, four years ago, and her engagement will be an unusual theatrical event. Nethersole's "Carmen" has been the most widely advertised of all her impersonations in this country, not excepting her "Camille," which is generally idmitted to be the greatest of any Englishspeaking actress.

London Dramatic Notes.

LONDON, March 11 .- The success of the theatrical world at present is Charles Hawtrey in "The Cuckoo" at the Third-avenue Theater where, in spite of charges of impropriety, all fashionable London is entering. The criticisms on "A Lady of Quality" as a play are generally very severe, and it is

not likely to succeed here. Mrs. Brown Potter's success in the "Musketeers" has firmly established her in a position from which she is now able to dictate her own terms. She will play the leading role in Henry A. Jones's "Carnach Sahib. which Beerbohm Tree will produce at her Majesty's Theater on April 5. The new play picture Anglo-Indian life with soldiers and rajahs galore. Kyrle Bellew has contracted to appear

with Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum Thea-

Notes of the Stage.

Richard La Gallienne threatens to turn his "Quest of the Golden Girl" into an opera Anna Held travels in her own private car,

where she will live while "The French

Pauline Hall is now the prima donna of the Wilbur Opera Company. Several good artists learned their business in that com-

Maid" is in Indianapolis this week.

Maud Harrison will appear in a play entitled "The Purple Lady" at the Bijou Theater, New York, on April 3. May Irwin is now on the road with "Kate Kip." Sarah Bernhardt will have a little try at

Romeo if her Hamlet is pleasantly received. She is, by the way, said to be wavering in her decision never to appear in Germany. The souvenirs for to-morrow night at the

Grand will be Allen Patton's photographs Mr. Patton is one of the most popular stock company members with the audience at the Burr McIntosh is quite ill in Philadelphia with a high fever and a severe cold. It is

with Nat Goodwin in "The Lady and the Cowboy" on Monday night. Mrs. Leslie Carter will leave the Garrick in April, take a vacation in Europe,

ransom. When they discover their mistake they are about to kill Petitipas, but he manages to rescue the whole party. He is desperately in love with Jacqueline, but has not matter of fact, no such individual ever ex-

"Mile. Fifi" has broken all box office records at the Manhattan, New York, since that house passed under Brady & Ziegfeld's management. Theater parties are in nightly evidence and the audiences are most fash-

Anna Held will go to Paris for the summer and secure ravishing gowns for her next Loss in Destruction of Properties-The season's production of the musical comedy, "Papa's Wife," adapted by Harry B. Smith from a piquant play in Judic's famous

It is said that Merri Osborne will replace Phyllis Rankin in the London production of "The Belle of New York." Miss Rankin is to be seen in a burlesque called "The Man in the Moon." which is to be pre-

sented in New York. James H. Wallick's "Devil's Island," with its elaborate scenic effects as seen at English's early this season, will be at the Park all next week and will be followed by Hoyt's 'A Stranger in New York," with Joe Coyne in the principal role.

Maurice Barrymore will star next season in a play founded upon the history of the Netherlands during the Spanish occupation. It is to be called the "Double Cipher," and one of the characters will be the notorious Spanish governor, Alva.

The production of the Grand stock company next week will be Dion Boucicault's famous English comedy, "London Assurance." There are half a dozen prominent characters in this play which will give the stock company favorites all an excellent Denis O'Suilivan, the new member o

"Shamus O'Brien" during the production of that successful opera in America two seasons ago. He is a handsome and intelligent Arthur Trevellyan, a song writer, created a disturbance in the lobby of the Heraldsquare Theater in New York Thursday

locked up for his pains. Victor Herbert and John Philip Sousa are writing comic operas for next season. Mr. Sousa has selected George Broadhurst as the author of one of his librettos. Victor Herbert will also have a new librettist.

write a musical farce for Augustin Daly. One of the curiosities of Paris little known to the general public is a unique museum in which are gathered all objects relating to the ballet. These include everything, from tattered ballet skirts to valuable jewels, which are collected assiduously so long as they are connected with some celebrity of the dance. The latest acquisition to the collection is a plaster cast of the feet of Mme. Vestris. They were made for Lord Fife at a cost of \$5,000, and sold after his

death for 50 cents. It is claimed no such ornamentation has ever been seen on a stage as the one Anna Held wears in "The French Maid," with her scintillating \$10,000 diamond gown of scant proportions. Springing out from an enormous tiara in the center of her head are spreading pink ostrich plumes which look as if they might be yards long, falling down each side of her face almost to the neck. Nobody but a French woman would exploit such an affair, and it suits the pretty little piquant Held admirably, producing an effect which American women could not imitate.

Paderewski is playing for the first time in St. Petersburg, and American advertising methods are being employed by his manager. His lithographs hang in the church windows. He placed the prices of tickets at extreme figures. He donated the fee of 1,000 roubles, received for his appearance at the Philharmonic concert, to the city's Conservatory of Music. He has made a big success, although official society did not attend his recitals, owing to the stress laid on his Polish nationality. The critics praised

A BARNYARD STUDY.

One day, after three weeks of extraordinary patience, the old speckled hen appeared excited beyond measure. The least approach toward her nest, however gently made, was the signal for all sorts of fussy attitudes and clucks that the hen nature could muster. Evidently a climax had been reached. Her warm breast had, throughout the night, felt the miniature bombardment from beneath and the mother trembled with excitement. Nature had committed to her care the destinies of a dozen little imprisoned chicks, each one exerting all its little power in breaking its way out; and as one after the other, meeting with success, emerged from its oval home with a crash, a new tremor of excitement would seize the brooding mother above, lifting her half off her nest that the new found freedom may not in any wise be hampered. All day long little smothered chirps came from that feather bed and as each new arrival appeared upon the scene the chirrup became choral. Tiny yellow bills and bead eyes were thrust from between the wingfeathers as though impatient to enter active life. Upon the second day the old mother ventured forth surrounded by twelve of the prettiest, cutest specimens of life imaginable. Away she stalked with stately tread and steady "Cluck, cluck, cluck." She started at the least unusual sound and with

an alarm cry gathered her brood under her wings. She stood ready to fight for them, ruffling her feathers in porcupine fashion, bending her head low to the ground and with brave little dashes and retreats so bewildering the enemy that very few wished to persevere in their hostility. She scratched vigorously wherever she went, tearing the grass from its sockets and scattering the leaves to the wind. When a morsel was found she hurriedly called them around her and the first comer was served first-this, to teach the lesson of staying at home. Days went by but the same patient care and guardianship was exercised. Those little downy balls developed into big, ungainly fellows and it was a sight most pathetic to watch that patient old mother vainly attempt to cover her fast growing family. Every evening the difficulty became more

apparent; the chicks were simply being crowded out of home by the force of circumstances. She did her best, however, though one felt like scolding her for thus meekly and uncomplainingly standing all those bumps and jostles; it was positively outrageous how those chickens persisted in huddling under that faithful old hen. Sometimes, when two or three began fighting for some choice place and thus disturbed the whole set, they nearly lifted her off her feet; but all she would do would be to feebly cluck and endure it all. But one day, soon after the members of her family had got old enough to quarrel among themselves and hold momentary combat, the old hen seemed slowly but surely to be possessing herself of the spirit of antagonism; it seemed that the truth which long since had presented itself to us was at last making itself known to her. The time had come to sever parental protection. New duties were crowding themselves upon that mother; and, besides it was an absolute impossibility to feed and shelter a dozen great fellows, any one of which would eat as much as she herself. One afternoon while the mother was picking a rich morsel to pieces, two of her children came rushing up to her for their share, tumbling over each other as they came. The next moment they were both sent sprawling. What a peck that was and how savagely the mother administered it! Those two startled youngsters retreated to the corner of the yard crying plaintively while the others tried the same thing with the

ruped themselves to sleep in its deepest re-R. ZARING. The Stopping of the Clock. Surprising falls the instantaneous calm. The sudden silence in my chamber small;

same uncompromising result. Later they

held a long council; as a result they that

evening found an empty barrel and chir-

L starting, lift my head in half alarm-The clock has stopped-that's all. The clock has stopped! Yet why have I so found An instant feeling almost like dismay? doubtful whether he will be able to appear Why note its silence sooner than its sound?

For it has ticked all day, So may a life beside my own go on, And such companionship unheeded keep; Companionship scarce recognized till gone, And lost in sudden sleep.

PREPARING FOR A PLAY

SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES EN-COUNTERED BY STOCK COMPANY.

Hard Study-Cost of the Gowns.

There are many lovers of the drama who remember the days of the stock company at the old Metropolitan Opera House. This season the stock company custom has been renewed, and a new play has been presented each week for twenty-two weeks. The business of organizing and conducting a stock | KID GLOVES, IN ALL THE UP-TOcompany is interesting. Three men-J. J. Murdock, Mr. Hunt and Walter Clarke Bellowes-have charge of the company here. They select the company and the plays, and put them on the stage each week in a new performance. To select the company is not easy. Each man has a list of actors and actresses whom he rates as to ability, personal appearance, voice, manner and other qualifications for a good performer. The persons for a company are chosen from the lists, and they are expected to be fully capable of taking certain places in the cast. The three men who select the company choose the plays. For this they have an immense repertoire, with a preference for those that have been tested and are generally liked Francis Wilson's Company, was the original by the public. The pulse of the public has to be felt in the matter of plays. The effect of a play on the audience has to be known young Irishman, well known in England and by the management, and this matter of the public's like or dislike has to be nourished never do to risk a "frost." To give "Camille" last week was one of the greatest night by accusing Messrs. Mathews and risks imaginable, for the simple reason that Bulger of appropriating some of his songs "Camille" is known so well. People have without permission. He was arrested and and the situations more than in almost any other play. They have seen great actresses in the play. It was the part of the management to select one of the twenty-eight or Reginald de Koven and H. B. Smith will | the plays do not demand a royalty; that is "Moths." There had to be a guarantee of \$350 for the use of "Too Much Johnson" for a week, and "The Senator" had to be paid for. In taking the plays that were popular several years ago, like "Esmeralda," considerable has to be paid to have the plays brought up to date-a little revision that necessary. The management is assisted sometimes in the selection of a play by the requests that are sent in. Often plays are chosen for three and four weeks ahead of the time they are to be given. The style of play has to be changed. Too much sentiment or too little variety must be avoided. "Jim the Penman" has drawn the largest

audiences, for there was an extra matinee Christmas day. THE REHEARSAL The play selected, the next thing is to get ready to give it. The parts are given out Monday night, and the company is called together Tuesday afternoon for the first reading. The play is read through and the performers get an idea of their lines, to whom, or with whom they are to be spoken and the business, where entrances and exits are to be made, and the entire outline of the play. Wednesday morning the first rehearsal is called, and from 10 to 12:30 the hard work begins. Memorizing the parts, while difficult, is not considered as important as the action and giving the cues, for the latter are even more essential. A few words might possibly be changed in the middle of a speech, but the last few words of the speech are the oni; guide the next speaker may have. Anothe part of the speech that has to be carefully done is to interrupt when another is speaking. Unfinished remarks in real life are many and the playwright introduces them frequently. Some parts of plays move off easily and others have to be done over and

over again, before they are ready for the twice a day from 10 till 12:30 or 1 o'clock, and then from 2 until 5 or later. One play was rehearsed until 7:15, and the people were coming into the theater. To give one play in the evening and two afternoons of the week, and rehearse a second between times, is not particularly restful, but such the stock company does and has done for twenty-two weeks. The mental work cannot be appreciated by an outsider. It happens that sometimes the brain refuses to absorb. In such a case the actor or actress has to be given a week of rest. It was such an occurrence as this that delayed the performance of "Jim the Penman" until several weeks after the first notice had been

made that it would be given. DRESSING THE CHARACTER. It is not all of a play to learn the lines and the business. The character has to b dressed. For the men this is not so much of an undertaking in the society drama, dress suits, etc., being alike for all, but the women have to arrange their costumes. The leading lady in the company has first choice be a conference between the members of the company so that the colors shall not clash in the stage picture and so that all do not decide to have pink or some one color. The details are decided by the actress. To present a society play requires some nice dressing, and the clothes must be of good material and make. A shoddy gown shows quicker under the glare of the footlights than it would in any ballroom. If the play is what is called a costume play, the gown is secured from the costumer, or dealer in fancy dress or masquerade suits. The members of the stock company not only have to dress well on the stage but they must dress well off the stage. They are required to buy their costumes for the plays in the cities where they are in the company. They are not allowed to use exactly the same costume for any two plays and if the same material is used there must be a change in the style or the trimming and then there must be five weeks between the times of wearing the gowns. The company is required to live in good places. To learn and act and dress the part falls to the actor or actress. To set the play falls to the business of others. The management decides the scenery, first by the openings called for in the play, that is the places where the doors and windows have to be. These men select the color, hangings and properties. Four men do nothing else than hunt properties. This includes all the articles to be used except the scenery. They are each provided with a list, and then be gins such a shopping tour as the maddest bargain hunter in town could not duplicate. 'Esmerelda" and "Blue Jeans" took the greatest amount of "old plunder," things hat were difficult to find within the city limits, but they were all brought in, and when the curtain rose no one in the audience could have surmised the experiences the "prop" man had to secure the stuff. Most of the properties are bought outright It is estimated that \$100 a week would not pay for breakage. Furniture and bric-abrac get some rough usage on the stage. Accidents will happen in the best housekeeping, and what else can be expected when a lot of men scurry to get the stage set. An obstreperous curtain one night touched the edge of a cabinet of delicate bric-a-brac and over went the whole thing. and not a piece in it but what was broken. most of it beyond the mender's skill. The value of a year or two's work in stock company is great, for the players gain versatility unknown to the one-part performer. It gives them confidence in their own powers and gives them a reputation. It is a severe but the best school that there is and it is often the making of a man or woman in the profession. In the matter of work it taxes more than any other lines of business, both physical and mental ability and endurance. Each member in the company is an understudy for the one highe n the company, so that in case of sudden illness of one, the play would go on just the same and there is much maneuvering to keep all of the parts up. From the ranks of the stock company have come most of

THE REGULAR ATTENDANTS. Several thousand persons witness the plays every week. Many secure their seats for certain nights every week throughout the season. The same people may be seen in the same seats every Tuesday night or every Friday night, while the number of persons who go to every Wednesday or every Saturday matinee would two-thirds fill the house. This is what makes it so difficult to secure

the great players.

SSSA BEAUTIFUL DAYSSS Is rare and very much appreciated after the weather we've had. All signs tend to show that Spring is here. Wouldn't it be a good idea to pick out your Easter Suits, Shoes and Hat before the big rush is on. The items we advertise to-day are interesting. It will pay you to see what we are showing before looking elsewhere.

We have now all the Novelties in Ladies' Neckwear for Easter.

RICH SILKS, FOREIGN AND DOMES TIC, FOR EASTER.

FINE ORGANDIES, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, FOR EASTER.

MOHAIR AND WOOLEN FABRICS, FOR EASTER. FANCY PARASOLS, ALL THE LAT-

EST CREATIONS, FOR EASTER. DATE COLORINGS, FOR EASTER. FANCY SILKS, IN EXQUISITE COM-

BINATIONS, FOR EASTER. A SPECIAL DISPLAY OF VEILING, FOR EASTER.

HANDSOME SHOES, FOR EASTER. HOSIERY FOR LADIES, MEN AND CHILDREN, IN PLAIDS, PLAIN AND STRIPED, FOR EASTER.

PRETTY HANDKERCHIEFS, IN ALL DESIGNS, FOR EASTER. JAUNTY JACKETS, CAPES AND WAISTS, FOR EASTER.

Silks

About 3,000 yards of Taffetas-plain, figured-the new Stripes and Plaids, a revelation in cheap Silks; Monday,

all go at50c as carefuly as a hothouse plant, for it would | 27 inches wide Lining and Underskirt Satins, will move Monday at; a

A The new Liberty Satins, that ought to sell at 65c a yard; Monday, for .. 50c seen it so much that they know the words The new 27-inch Embroidery Silks. We • 27-inch Figured All-silk Foulards-

we are introducing them Monday more versions and then put it on. Many of Latest things in Striped Taffetas-ribbon patterns-excellent dollar values

Black Dress Goods 45-inch Bicord-the new weave-very substantial and heavy cloth, per yard, for Monday \$1.25 44-inch All-wool French-made Poplins; Monday, a eautiful fab-46-inch Rayere, Monday \$1:00 ric, in perfect we d Crepon, a Silk and Wool tw

very desirable ligh, weave; Mon-Shrunk Cheviots, 50 inches wide,

exceptional value; Monday. a \$1.25 42-inch Crepons-in brocade soft ef-

Colored Dress Goods

44-inch Silk and Wool Coval Dress Pompadour weaves of the season; Monday, for New Plaids, for Skirts, are a very strong feature of our stock; prices, from 59c to \$1.00 46-inch Bedford Cord, the new narrowwale, French made and very handsome; Monday, the yard980 Bicord-a new weave, very charm-

ing, 48 inches wide; Monday, 5 different weaves in popular new weave 46-inch Crocodile Bayadere-rich, heavy and fashionable-brown, green and three shades of blue, 46

\$1.98, \$2.48 and \$2.98 Shoes Are our specialties, and we give better goods at these prices than you can buy

Special sale on Monday of 273 pairs Ladles' Fine Shoes, all sizes, \$1.47 worth \$2, for only...... Kid and Patent Tips, and new stylish

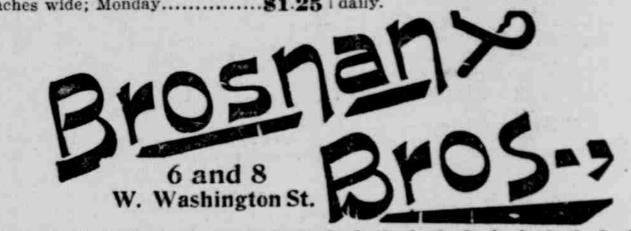
elsewhere. Compare before you buy. Our

variety is large, and the styles are right.

75 pairs Ladies' Hand-turned, fine Dongola Shoes, broken sizes, \$2.48 marked down from \$3.50 to.\$2.48

72 pairs Misses' Fine Dongola Shoes, new Coin Toes, Kid and Patfrom \$1.75 to\$1.33

Don't miss these sales. Boys' and Youths' Shoes at reduced prices to reduce our stock. We must have room for our large spring stock arriving



pays for all the seats once in twelve weeks. There are also other ways that groups of friends have for being together at the theater. The audience does something else than see the play; it comments on it to the management at the rate of nearly three hundred letters a week. It asks for plays, it criticises and it suggests with the utmost freedom. It writes complimentary notices of the performers and not infrequently asks impertinent questions about them. It takes exception to the press criticisms and almost invariably writes a note to tell the performers that they must not mind the press notices, that the play is all right.

SUBURBAN SOCIETY NOTES.

Brightwood. Mr. J. G. Thomas, of Muncie, visited relatives here last week.

The Cinch Club met at the home of Mrs. Gregory Tuesday evening. Mrs. John Miller, who has been visiting in Elwood, is home again. Miss Inez Titus, who has been visiting in Columbus, Ind., is home again.

Mr. O. L. Hahn, of Jonesburg, spent last week with his family on Station street. The young people of Brightwood will give a dance at the town hall Friday, March 17. Dr. D. A. Brown and Rev. Mr. Titus, of the R. R. Y. M. C. A., went to Cincinnati

last week in the interest of Y. M. C. A. The Big Four shops are working ten hours a day again and nine on Saturday. Some of the departments are working day

Mrs. Mary Moyer, who has been living with her sister, Mrs. J. J. Traub, on North Station street, will go to Mattoon, Ill., next week for a short visit. Rev. Mr. Villers, of the First Baptist Church, will conduct services at the Baptist Church next Wednesday evening and will

also immerse candidates. The Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Church will be entertained at tea next Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. G. A. Sites, on North Station street. Mrs. Grim and daughter Herma are visiting Mrs. M. E. Hinch and family, on North Station street. Mrs. Grim will go to Chicago next week, where she will reside. Mrs. W. W. Reynolds entertained the Epworth League Wednesday evening and the Junior League Thursday evening at the parsonage. Games were played and light

refreshments were served. Mrs. Minnie Bloom entertained a number of friends Wednesday evening at an o'clock dinner at her residence, on North Station street. Mrs. Bloom was assisted in receiving by Miss Katherine Reynolds. Mr. O. G. Whistler and Miss Lilly Horning were married Thursday evening at the residence of Rev. E. W. Murray. After the wedding ceremony friends were entertained at the new home of Mr. and Mrs. Whistler, on Gale street.

Haughville.

Miss Lottie Hankins is visiting in Cler-Miss Minnie Trotter is visiting friends at

Crawfordsville. Mr. J. D. Kidd, of Holmes avenue, is visiting his father at North Vernon. Miss Julia Nelson, of Anderson, is visiting Misses Peterson, on Sheffield avenue. Rev. Mr. Orahood will preach this morning and evening at the Christian Church. Mr. Ed Foudray and family will move to the country, near Brownsburg, next week. Mrs. Ross and granddaughter, Daisy Ross,

About two-thirds of the men employed by Brown & Ketcham are laid off for an in definite period The Red Men are arranging to give a benefit dance for Mr. Sutton, who is now

will leave to-morrow for Ohio, where they

taking treatment at Martinsville. Rev. Mr. De Long, of the North Indianapolis M. E. Church will occupy the pulpit of the Methodist Church this morning. The choir of the Methodist Church was entertained yesterday evening by Mrs. William Hobbs, on West Michigan street. The Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Church will meet next Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Harmon, on Sheffield avenue. Mrs. W. C. Bull, who has been visiting her daughter in Pittsburg, Pa., is home again. Miss Browning accompanied her mother here and went on to St. Lous and Chicago. The Junior Endeavor gave a social at the ome of the superintendent, Miss Goodykuntz, on Tremont avenue, Wednesday evening. Music was furnished by Miss

Miss Johnson. President Lewis, of the Epworth League City Union, lectured on Wales at the Kingavenue M. E. Church Tuesday evening. Miss Gertrude Rogers, of West Indianapolis, sang translations from Welsh songs and Mr. Lewis sang a song in the Welsh tongue. The Knights of Pythias are preparing for an anniversary to be given in Castle Hall the latter part of this month or first of next.

It will be invitational and the following

O. Trotter, chairman; C. C. Schaffer and

Anderson Jones. Mr. W. Hobbs is chairman

committee has charge of arrangements: W

Wood, Fern Hufford, Opal Hawkins and

of the committee on decoration and Joseph Bradford on printing. The Mother Goose entertainment, which is now being rehearsed by the ladies of the Methodist Church, will be presented Friday evening, March 31, at the reading room. Mrs. W. Hobbs will represent Mother Goose and Miss Blanche Gregg will be the old woman who lived in a shoe. Mr. Childers will be Simple Simon and Miss Wood and Mr. T. Elliott will be Jack and Jill, and Otis Trotter Humpty Dumpty. Other characters will be represented by the younger

West Indianapolis.

The W. C. T. U. will meet Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Clark, on South Reisner street. Mr. Jack Bates, of Pendleton, Ind., who has been the guest of relatives, has returned The Epworth League is making arrange

people.

ments for a lecture by Rev. William Tins-

His Head The Stars

Hail Cubanola! Best cigar on That ever answered to a nick-

el's chime! Thy equal never had, can ne'er have birth, To meet the wants of this ex-

acting time, Or fill the measure of a Hoosier

Hail Cubanola! Lifted to the

In thy firm clasp I leave the world's dull clay; I rise-I rise enfranchised of my

I rise as joyous as a lark, as And as I rise I sing this rounde-

Nay, Nay Sweet Poet, prithee no roundelay,

Simply in plain and honest prose to say

Ludanola

Is the only FIVE-CENT CIGAR sold in Indiana that has a CLEAR, LONG HAVANA FILLER-The only one. This Cigar is sold by the best dealers to the best trade in Hoosierdom

This picture of our excellent Mayor, Thomas Taggart,

A. KIEFER DRUGCO

in the regular army and left Wednesday for Miss Jessie Thompson, of Danville, Ind. who has been the guest of her brother, Lawrence Thompson, has returned home. Rev. Leon Duncan, of Trinity M. E. Church, will take for his text Sunday even-ing, "I believe God." Acts, xxvii, 25. The Ladies' Aid Society of Trinity Church gave a social and supper at 1224 Oliver avenue Friday evening. It was well attended. Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Abbett, of Rensselaer, Ind., who have been visiting their son, John Abbett, on Division street, have gone to

Chicago Heights. The members of the Pilgrim Congregational Church has organized a Christian Endeavor Society to meet every Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock. The following officers were elected: President, Miss Blanche Goodspeed; vice president, Mr. Harry Woods; treasurer, Flossie Gorham; secretary, Mrs. Lord; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Calef. The W. C. T. U. silver medal contest on Woman's Suffrage, at Trinity Church Wednesday evening, was well attended, and the silver medal was awarded to Mrs. J. W. Byrkit, whose subject was "Patty Ryan Demands Her Rights." The judges were:

Rev. W. G. Proctor, Lincoln-avenue Metho-

dist Church; Rev. Leon Duncan, of Trinity;

grim Congregational Church.

Mrs. Wright and Rev. J. Gordon, of the Pil-

"For One Man's Pleasure." Two magpies sought my garden-glade, (It brings good luck to look at two!) Though not as billing ringdoves woo Do pies discourse of love! They made A grievous chatter in the shade; But, by-and-by, with much ado, They built a nest, and then I knew should be lucky whilst they stay'd! ween two blither fowl than these ou had not seen beneath the sun. Wherefore, the gardener took his gun And shot one near the early peas:-The sad mate lingers, ill at ease; (It bodes bad luck to look at one!)

Causes for Divorce. Philadelphia North American.

Monday or earlier. There is a club of nine-teen women who bowled every Wednesday afternoon. Tring of so much bowling, they decided to go to the matinee each alternate week and, they have the same seats each time, a straight row across the house. Numbers of families have season tickets. It is the custom for certain parties to go together one night each week. Each couple pays for one night each week. Each couple pays for People who cannot live together because

for it covers a great deal of ground. But incompatibility of temper-well, that may indicate that pairs should separate, but not that they should have a right to pair a sec-

A Civilizing Influence.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: The growing sentiment for the protection of birds manifested in the organization of a State Audubon Society is something more than a passing caprice. It has an evident economic phase through which its greatest appeal is perhaps made, but back of this economic reason lies the real motive which is purely ethical in its nature. There is everywhere evident a careless indifference to the suffering of lower life forms, an utter unconcern for the general welfare, an ignorance that cares not to be enlightened that constitute real danger points in our civilization. The real underlying motive in bird protection is, in some degree, at least, to lessen these dangerous tendencies. It is certain that the universal and judicious enforcement of existing laws for the protection of birds would in a large measure accomplish this end. If gentleness to weaker forms of life, if

tenderness and mercy are beautiful attributes in the character of woman, they are of equal beauty in the character of a boy or a man. There seems no very good reason in the nature of things why the boy should cripple a bird with a stone and the girl cry over it, rather than that the reverse condition should exist. Yet the fact remains that the boy is expected to be a cruel ani-mal. It would be a splendid thing for the future of America if gentleness should be a chivalric attribute in the coming century; the years would come in which the word "gentleman" was restored to its full significance. But the boy of to-day, and too often the man, is ashamed to be merciful, and finds his highest conception of a good time fully met when he has killed something. Every man should realize and every boy be taught the sacredness of life. But airguns and devil-shooters in the hands of boys with a roving Heense to shoot at living marks and shotguns in the hands of men, with attendant live-bird matches, do not lend themselves either to the development

-Violet Fane, in the Pall Mall Magazine.